

ACT/047/008

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April 18, 1978

Mr. Robert E. Covington
Hiko Bell Mining and Oil Company, Inc.
P.O. Drawer AB
Vernal, UT. 84078

Dear Bud:

Enclosed are two copies of the "Environmental Assessment" prepared by the Division for the Ute-32 Mine. I hope it meets the BLM requirements for the road right-of-way assessment.

The Utah Environmental Coordinating Committee is reviewing the assessment at this time. If no problems are found, the Division will issue tentative approval for the proposed operation and a condensed version will be published. If no objections of substance are received in thirty days, final approval will be issued. The \$4,489.70 bond computed for the initial period should be sufficient for the proposed operation if reclamation of abandoned areas occurs as new areas are developed. However, the bond may be recomputed, if conditions warrant. As a reminder, no work can commence before the bond is received by the State, which has not yet occurred.

The staff of the Division of State History has requested an archaeological survey of the proposed mine area before operations expand past the two acre initial stage. I was informed by Mr. Wilson Martin that this is a request and not a requirement. Legislation on the subject is vague. However, he would appreciate a written response from you through this Division's office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

K. MICHAEL THOMPSON
RECLAMATION HYDROLOGIST

Enc. Two (2) copies EAS - Ute-32